

**September 22, 2009**

**WASHINGTON, DC** - U.S. Rep. Michael Arcuri (NY-24) announced today that the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has awarded a \$1,300,000 Water and Waste Disposal Loan to the Village of Groton for improvements to their wastewater treatment plant stemming from a New York State Department of Environmental Conservation consent order.

"Rural water infrastructure projects like these are in desperate need of funding across Upstate New York," Arcuri said. "To ensure that residents have access to a safe and reliable water supply, we must make improvements to the aging infrastructure found in so many towns in Upstate New York. I look forward to following the progress of this vital project, and will continue my efforts to secure funding for similar initiatives across the region."

The USDA's Rural Development's Water and Environmental Program provides loans and grants to ensure that the necessary investments are made in water and wastewater infrastructure to deliver safe drinking water and protect the environment in rural areas, which has allocated almost \$15 billion in loans, grants, salaries and expenses, allocated for the fiscal year 2009.

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